



Commonwealth of Kentucky Labor Cabinet

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Kentucky Apprenticeship Conference Comes to General Butler State Park on Oct. 15-17

Conference includes leaders in business, education, government and labor

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Oct. 1, 2014) – For the first time ever, the Kentucky Apprenticeship Conference will be held at General Butler State Park in Carrollton on Oct. 15-17. Leaders from business, education, government and labor backgrounds will attend the conference, which the Kentucky Labor Cabinet sponsors.

“This conference is so beneficial in the increasingly important area of registered apprenticeship, which helps companies fill their need for highly-skilled workers, and allows people to find high-paying careers,” said Labor Cabinet Secretary Larry L. Roberts. “Apprenticeship itself has been around for centuries, but the modern demand for qualified workers in industries such as manufacturing, construction, welding, pipefitting and others continues to grow every day.”

In addition to Secretary Roberts, John Ladd, administrator of the Office of Apprenticeship for the U.S. Department of Labor, is part of the high-profile agenda for the conference. Other speakers include Beth Brinly, commissioner of the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet and Mike Donta, deputy commissioner of Workplace Standards and supervisor of Apprenticeship with the Labor Cabinet.

The conference will include several seminars on key topics related to apprenticeship issues, such as establishing and maintaining a registered apprenticeship program, tips for grant writing, and making the most of related classroom instruction. Also, there will be

presentations on the Tech Ready Apprentices for Careers in Kentucky (TRACK) program, an overview of the Labor Cabinet's online learning programs, and an open forum on all aspects of apprenticeship.

For a look at the conference's complete agenda, click [here](#).

To register for the conference, click [here](#) or visit www.labor.ky.gov.

"The conference provides a great opportunity for people interested in starting an apprenticeship program or growing and expanding an existing one," said Angie College, conference organizer and chairperson of the Kentucky Apprenticeship Steering Committee. "This is a chance to learn about the exciting things that are happening in the world of apprenticeship, such as how to take advantage of the millions of dollars in federal grants that are becoming available later this year."

This fall, the U.S. Department of Labor is making \$100 million in existing funds available for American Apprenticeship Grants to reward partnerships that help more workers participate in apprenticeships. Earlier this year, President Obama announced new federal investments using existing funds to support job-driven training, like apprenticeships, that will expand partnerships with industry, businesses, unions, community colleges, and training organizations to train workers in the skills they need.

There are more than 100 registered apprenticeship programs already in Kentucky. For a list of those, click [here](#). Registered apprenticeship offers access to 1,000 career areas, including the following top occupations throughout the U.S.:

- Carpenter
- Chef
- Child care development specialist
- Construction craft laborer
- Dental assistant
- Electrician
- Law enforcement agent
- Over-the-road truck driver
- Pipefitter

For many years, the apprenticeship conference was held prior to the Labor-Management Conference at Kentucky Dam Village. With a recent rise in attention on apprenticeship, organizers decided to move the conference to its own location, and chose the scenic [General Butler State Park](#), which is within 50 miles of the large population centers of Lexington, Louisville and Northern Kentucky.

For more on registered apprenticeship, click [here](#) or visit www.labor.ky.gov.

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The Kentucky Labor Cabinet's primary responsibility is to ensure that divisions and offices falling under the auspices of the Cabinet work within the jurisdiction of Kentucky labor law to ensure equitable and fair treatment of the Commonwealth's more than 1.9 million wage-earning employees. The Cabinet, according to regulation, has the duties, responsibilities, power, and authority relating to labor, wage and hour issues, occupational safety and health of employees, child labor, apprenticeship, workers' compensation insurance, and all other matters under the jurisdiction of the Labor Cabinet. For more information, visit www.labor.ky.gov.

